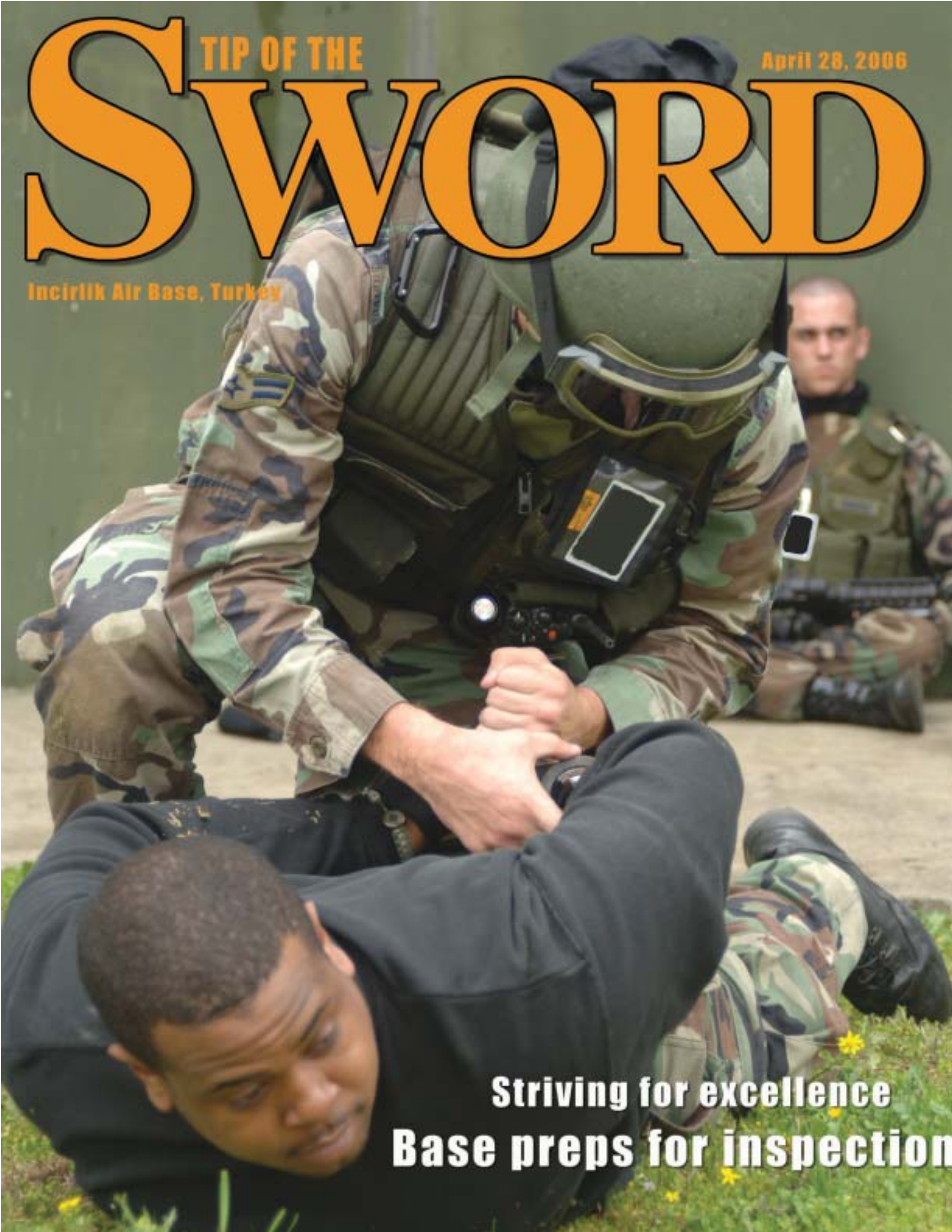


TIP OF THE SWORD

April 28, 2006

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey



**Striving for excellence
Base preps for inspection**

CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| The real deal with PRP | 4 |
| Legal food for thought | 5 |
| Force on force training | 7 |
| Maintaining excellence | 8, 9 |
| Responding all the time | 10 |
| Hitting it out the park | 13 |

130

Days until inspection

Tip of the week: It takes the whole-base team to succeed in our upcoming inspection, from 728th Air Mobility Squadron to the 39th Maintenance Squadron to the 385th Air Expeditionary Group, we all must pull together and work as a wing.

On the cover: When it comes to inspections every person on base plays a part. Everyone is responsible for making Incirlik the Tip of the Sword. (Photo by Senior Airman Larry Reid Jr.)

Editorial Staff

Col. "Tip" Stinnette, 39th Air Base Wing commander
Capt. Denise Burnham, Public Affairs chief
1st Lt. S.J. Brown, Public Affairs deputy chief
Tech. Sgt. Brian Jones, Public Affairs NCOIC
Staff Sgt. Oshawn Jefferson, Internal Information NCOIC
Senior Airman Tim Beckham, Internal Information
Senior Airman Patrice Clarke, Editor
Mehmet Birbiri, Host Nation Adviser
10th Tanker Base Commander
Brig. Gen. H. Levent Turkmen

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



By Col. "Tip" Stinnette
39th Air Base Wing commander

Knights, Warriors, Airmen

In the *Star Wars* movie, *The Empire Strikes Back*, Yoda, the Jedi Knight teacher, tries to implant into Luke Skywalker the means of engaging the "force" that is the greatest power in the universe. He says to his pupil, "Luke, do, or do not ... there is no try." In our business there is no try or almost ... there is only do and perfect ... we are in a zero/one business which demands perfection and we are ready to show the U.S. Air Forces in Europe inspection team what we can do!

We are ready because we think like winners, have prepared like winners, and perform like winners. We are ready because we

have set high goals, worked toward those goals with determination and persistence, and haven't stopped until we reached those goals. We are ready because we have made total commitment our constant companion.

We are ready because we have avoided the tempting shortcuts and unhealthy habits that could result in defeat. We are ready because we have confidence in ourselves and a high regard for our teammates. We are ready because we persevere in the midst of obstacles. We are ready because we are warriors entrusted with the awesome guardianship of our military's most powerful capability.

Gen. George S. Patton encouraged his Soldiers to "accept the challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory." We are Airmen, Warriors, and Knights committed to excellence in everything we do, committed to integrity in all things, committed to service to our country, committed to ensuring freedom's future, committed to doing it perfectly.

Knights, Warriors, and Airmen believe they are winners because they believe they are Knights, Warriors, and Airmen right down to the smallest detail. Let's show them what we can do ... we are Knights, Warriors, and Airmen!

Action Lines

Alley shopping concerns residents

Q: An Alley merchant complained to me about one of his American customers. He told me a customer ordered furniture and picked it up awhile ago. The customer was paying a certain amount each month. When the customer did not pay for two months, my friend found out the American has PCS'd, but he still owes the merchant \$750. I've also heard of a few carpet and furniture merchants being faced with this same problem in the past. I am friends with many of the merchants in the Alley and this really makes my blood boil. What should I do? How can I help?

A: Thanks for bringing this issue to our attention. When something like this happens the merchant should let us know immediately. They are always welcome to contact the Incirlik Village Merchants Association leadership. IVMA then contacts the base legal office, in turn the legal office contacts the Airman's gaining commander. So, next time you hear of this dishonesty, try to stop it before they PCS or tell your merchant friend to call Yilmaz Ozcelik at the legal office 676-6800 (from off-base 316-6800). We can be better ambassadors in our host nation.

FPCON
Charlie

INFOCON
Alpha-plus

DIGITCON
Bravo

The 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the *Tip of the Sword*. The 39th ABW Public Affairs Office (Unit 7090, Box 135, APO AE 09824-5153) is located in Building 833, Room 275.
Submissions: The editor or other *Tip of the Sword* staff will edit or re-write material for clarity brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for the *Tip of the Sword* can be made through e-mail to tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil. The editor can be reached at 676-6060. **Deadlines:** Submission deadlines are Wednesday, nine days, prior to publication date. If submissions are publishable, they run based on space available and priority. **Disclaimer:** The *Tip of the Sword* is printed by Kemal Matbaasi, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written agreement with the 39th Air Base Wing. This funded Air Force magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Unless otherwise noted, photographs are Air Force photos. The *Tip of the Sword* uses information from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, U.S. Forces in Europe News Service and other sources. Contents of *Tip of the Sword* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. **Contact Information:** To reach the 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff, call 676-3217, fax 676-6492, e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil or stop by Building 833, Room 275.

Becoming inspection ready

By Capt. Jordan Murphy
39th Maintenance Squadron
operations officer

Inspections ... we all talk about them, sweat them and get ready for them! Our mission requires the entire base to come together as a cohesive team. In fact, the goal of our mission is safety, security and reliability rolled into one package: Inspectable and ready for validation by the major command and higher levels.

Success in our mission is dependent on our ability to prove performance in key areas which include: technical operations, explosive ordnance disposal, logistics movement and the personnel reliability program to name a few. A failure or critical deficiency in any area could cause the wing to fail the inspection and have to be reinspected in 90 days.

The inspection involves every aspect of life on Incirlik. Some people think it is just a maintenance and security forces inspection, but it goes far beyond just those two squadrons. The inspectors evaluate how the 39th Mission Support Squadron and military personnel flight process people into the wing and into PRP.

The communications squadron is reviewed for maintenance of alarm systems. The civil engineer squadron is looked at for

facility support and lightning protection and EOD support. Training records are reviewed through out the wing to ensure we have adequate training programs.

The hospital is looked at for how they treat people on PRP and how information is passed to commanders when there is a problem. Logistics readiness is evaluated on how they maintain vehicles need to perform all aspects of the mission.

The operations squadron is evaluated on their planning to receive aircraft and the 728th Air Mobility Squadron is looked at for how they receive and handle aircraft once they arrive.

Safety is evaluated at all levels — for those of you who thought you would get away with an article in *Tip of the Sword* without mentioning safety, guess again. Our safety office has the overall challenge of monitoring the safety precautions our Airmen will take during the inspection.

As a last thought of why this is important to all of you — I ask you to take away this. We are all for one, and one for all in this inspection.

Every member of the Incirlik team plays a key role in ensuring our mission success. Keep up your great work and remember you are important to bringing us a victory during our inspection!

Promotees, award winners for April

Recognizing the best and the brightest, congratulations to promotees and award winners:

Promoted to Airman:

Adam Kavanagh, 39th Security Forces Squadron

Promoted to Airman First Class:

William Cotter, 39th SFS, **Erin Knapp**, 39th Medical Group, **Renae Saylock**, 39th Communications Squadron

Promoted to Senior Airman:

Thomas Vick, 39th CS, **Sean Miller**, 39th CS, **Shannon Moore**, 39th Maintenance Squadron, **Clinton Koehler**, 39th CS, **Robert King**, 39th SFS, **Brandon Coons**, 39th SFS, **Joana Martinez**, 39th SFS, **Janinne Suarez**, 39th SFS, **Thomas Grandin**, 728th Air Mobility Squadron, **Julia Fraas**, 728th AMS

Promoted Staff Sergeant:

Christopher Stoup, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron, **Molly Whitehurst**, 39th CES, **Ryan Bobzin**, 39th CES, **Jarrold Getz**, 39th SFS, **Joshua Tisdell**, 39th MXS, **Sammy Miracle**, 728th AMS

Promoted to Technical Sergeant:

Marlena Blackman, 39th MDG, **Yolanda Askew**, 39th MDG, **Peter Hall**, Det. 1 16th Air Force, **Steven Williams**, 39th Air Base Wing

Promoted to Master Sergeant:

James Mull, 39th Operations Squadron, **Wayne Donnelly**, 728th AMS, **Dwight Carns**, 39th CS

Promoted to Major:

Michael Fitzpatrick, 39th OS, **Brian Tyler**, Det. 1 16th Air Force

Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel:

Jeffery Bell, 39th Comptroller Squadron

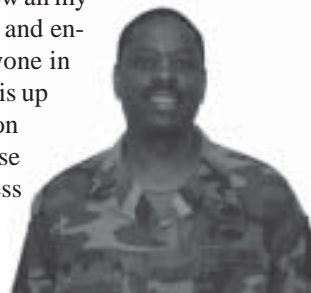
Awards

Congratulations to the 39th Services Squadron for the best bowling, outdoor recreation and readiness programs in U.S. Air Forces in Europe. The services squadron also won the 2006 USAFE Innkeeper award for the Hodja Inn. **Lt. Col. Michael Platt** won the USAFE 2006 Services Field Grade Officer of the Year Award and **Michael Skully** won the USAFE 2006 Services Civilian Flight Chief Award.

YOUR TURN

How do you prepare for an inspection?

"I review all my checklists and ensure everyone in my office is up to speed on the purpose and process of the pending inspection." **Master Sgt. Edward Vaughn**, 39th Air Base Wing military equal opportunity



"I review possible training scenarios that simulate real world activities that could be posed during an inspection."

Tech. Sgt. Evan Schleifer, 39th ABW anti-terrorism force protection



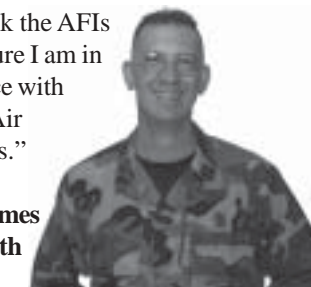
"I check my plans and programs for accuracy to look for critical discrepancies that lead to write-ups during the inspection."

Staff Sgt. Coleen Gibson, 39th ABW plans and programs



"I check the AFIs to make sure I am in compliance with what the Air Force says."

Chaplain (Capt.) James Taylor, 39th Air Base Wing chaplain



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 676-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

PRP: Picking right people for the job

By Senior Airman Patrice Clarke
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Many parents go through a long interview process before choosing their childcare provider. They want to ensure the person they choose to watch after their children is a person who is suitable for the job. The Air Force has a similar system in place for people who are watching over its important assets. That system is the personnel reliability program.

The program was started in 1962 by Gen. Curtis LeMay after several incidents raised some questions about personnel working with important asset.

"The program was put into place so people of the highest reliability are selected to work with assets," said Master Sgt. Joe Todd, 39th Mission Support Squadron personnel reliability program manager. "The intent is to prevent something bad from happening to the equipment or base personnel."

The program runs on the two-person concept.

"This concept requires two people to be present at all times when protecting assets," said Sergeant Todd. The system is designed to prohibit access by one person at all times. It requires the presence, at all times, of at least two authorized (certified) persons, each capable of detecting an incorrect or unauthorized procedure with respect to the task being performed.

There are two types of certified positions within the program. A controlled and critical position.

Controlled positions are positions that requires a person to be near the assets or to monitor entry into the area. "These positions are usually regulated to cops and other entry control people," said Sergeant Todd.

Critical positions are also available. These positions are regulated to people who have direct contact with assets. "Maintenance and explosive ordnance disposal members are in these positions."

These positions aren't just given out to everyone. The program has strict screening rules and many factors designate whether a person stays in the program or is suspended.

"The program is designed to help, not hinder, a person in the performance of their duties," said Sergeant Todd.

For the program to work successfully members must make personal problems known to their supervisors, PRP manager, support agencies and the appropriate medical authorities.

"We encourage people that if they are going through anything, or having some issues that they automatically tell the people who need to know," said Sergeant Todd.

Having the right people for the job is exactly what the PRP is about. Just as you wouldn't want an unstable person working with your kids, the Air Force doesn't want an unstable person working with their important assets.

Raid proved business as usual matters

Courtesy of the 39th Air Base Wing History Office

Tuesday was the anniversary of the 1980 rescue mission named Operation Eagle Claw which marked a humiliating failure for the U.S. military. This disaster was not one of the Air Force's finest hours unlike Operation El Dorado Canyon six years later to the month which stands testament to the fact that sometimes unbeknownst to those stationed at Incirlik, their business-as-usual activities are often directly tied into the far bigger scope of things.

The countdown to OEC began in spring 1979 when an uprising in Iran forced their long-time ruler, Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, into exile. Thousands of Iranian students stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, took 66 hostages and demanded the return of the Shah to stand trial. Pentagon planners began examining rescue options because Khomeni supporters thwarted efforts to release the captives.

During the task force's egress from deep within Iran before sunrise, a fierce sandstorm caused one of the Stallions to fly into a Herc's main stabilizers, rolling over the top of the aircraft gushing fuel and engulfing it in flames.

That morning, 7 a.m. U.S. Eastern Standard Time, President Carter addressed the world

stating that eight American servicemen were dead and several others seriously injured after a super-secret hostage rescue mission failed. This resulted in doctrinal changes geared toward improving future inter-service operations which ended Congress' doubts on April 14, 1986, when the Air Force and Navy jointly executed the longest distance fighter combat mission in history – Operation El Dorado Canyon.

The operation targeted Libya because their leader's, Col. Muammar Qaddafi, state-sponsored support to terrorist groups by training 8,000 terrorists per year, providing them safe haven, false documents and transport. Libya disbursed \$100 million to Palestinian terrorists alone while the number of terrorist attacks in the West rose from 300 in 1970 to more than 3,000 in 1985 to include hijacking and bombing passenger airliners and the Oct. 23, 1983, truck bombing of the U.S. Marine Barracks in Beirut killing 220 Marines and 21 other servicemen. The dilemma President Ronald Reagan faced in proving a direct connection between a terrorist act and Libya was over with the incontrovertible evidence that Libyans were responsible for the April 5, 1986, bombing of Berlin's La Belle Discotheque killing two U.S. servicemen and injuring 79 others.

Team Incirlik directly added to the chances of success for the Air Force part of this mission. During the three months prior to OEDC, 54 FB-111 Aardvarks from five squadrons stationed at either Upper Hayford or Lakenheath came here TDY. During their average 22-day stay they flew 892 sorties over Konya Bomb Range. However, there was no way to prepare the aircrews for the long flight ahead.

No permission to fly over France or Spain meant the 18 FB-111s, four EF-111s and seemingly every KC-135 stratotanker and 10 in the inventory had to take off from their bases in England, fly clear around the Iberian Peninsula and through the Strait of Gibraltar just to get to the Mediterranean Sea. The round-trip mission covered 6,400 miles, more than thirteen hours of flight and an average of 10 air refuelings per F-111 in order for the aircrews to hit their three assigned targets in Tripoli.

OEDC, the first bombing mission from England since WWII, was an overall success in accomplishing the objectives. They lost one aircraft and its crewmembers. A phenomenal achievement considering the difficulty of the mission and Libya was forewarned of the attack. Qaddafi had the attack broadcast live only to have his people hear for themselves the repercussions of the indomitable American spirit.

Wills, advance directives

Some healthy legal food for thought

By Lt. Col. Robert Ramey
39th Air Base Wing legal office

Do you need a will? Do you care who gets your property, money, or children if you die? A will is a legal document that is used to dispose of your property and appoint a guardian of your minor children upon your death. If you die without a will (that is, if you die “intestate”) the law determines who receives your property, and who will care for your minor children. If you have a will, you have made these choices for yourself and need not rely on the law to determine what happens, which may differ from your wishes.

There are basic wills and more complex wills based upon your circumstance at the time your will is drafted. The legal office can draft your will under most circumstances. If you expect to owe estate tax at the time of your death, our legal assistance attorneys may recommend that you consider speaking with an specialized estate planning lawyer.

The next questions you might ask is “does a will dispose of all my property?” The answer is “No.” There are certain types of assets that will automatically pass to your named beneficiary upon your death. These include: (1) life insurance, (2) retirement plans, (3) property that is owned jointly with a right of survivorship, (4) living trusts, (5) community property, and (6) “transfer on death” or “pay on death” accounts.

In addition to passing property to adult friends and relatives, you can also leave property to minor children under the will. However, depending on the type of personal property, an adult must be named to manage the property until the child becomes an adult. You

can either name a custodian, trustee or property guardian depending on your wishes regarding the personal distribution of property.

You should review or change your will if significant changes occur in your personal circumstances. For example, if you get married or divorced, if there is a death or birth in your immediate family, if you have a significant increase or decrease in the value of your property, or if the person you named as executor, guardian, trustee dies or becomes unable to serve in that capacity, these changes could warrant changes to your will.

Other significant changes could involve changes in the estate tax laws, a change in your state of legal residency, or if you decide you simply want to change how your property is distributed. Do not make any changes on the original document without consulting a legal assistance attorney, as this could make the will invalid. Otherwise, your will is valid until you revoke it by destroying it or until you execute a new one. At that point, the old will should be destroyed by shredding it or by some other means of destruction.

Advanced directives

The legal and legislative battles over the fate of Terry Schiavo have forced many tough questions. What would *you* have wanted if you were her? Does your family know what you would have wanted? Who would you like to make “life and death” decisions for you if you are unable to? And what can you do to make your wishes known – and more importantly – enforced? The base legal office can assist you to answer these questions and draft the documents you need to reflect your choices on the removal or extension of life support,

should it ever become necessary for you.

The document most commonly associated with answering these questions is known as a “living will.” **A living will is not part of your last will and testament, discussed above.** It is a separate document, also known as an “advanced medical directive” or declaration. This document states that if you are diagnosed with a terminal, incurable condition, you are authorizing physicians to remove life support. The conditions that trigger the living will and the extent of the medical care to be withdrawn vary significantly from state to state.

A medical power of attorney may also authorize a person you designate to direct the course of your medical care, and this may include some termination of life support decisions as well. Your legal assistance attorney can answer your questions regarding these documents and prepare the documents you choose to reflect your decisions concerning the withdrawal or extension of life support measures.

You should safeguard your will and advance directive as you would your other important papers. In addition, a copy of your advance directive should be placed in your medical records. Many people choose to keep their most important documents in a fireproof box, a file cabinet, or even in the freezer in a plastic bag.

However you safeguard your wills and advance directives, make sure that you tell your personal representative where to find the originals so upon your death they can follow your wishes contained in the document. Please contact the legal office with any questions you may have concerning wills or advance directives, 676-6800.

Incirlik blotter

The blotter has nothing significant to report from April 21 and Saturday. The wing is now in DIGICON BRAVO. To review procedures for DIGICON BRAVO please click on the link located on the Source.

(Blotter provided by the 39th Security Forces Squadron)

Commander's Action Line

The Action Line program provides an avenue for the Incirlik community to voice concerns, complaints and opinions to Col. “Tip” Stinnette, 39th Air Base Wing commander.

Submit Action Lines by e-mailing action.line@incirlik.af.mil or calling the 39th Public Affairs Office at 6-6060. Concerns are edited to 300 words or less.

Action Lines that apply to the majority of the base population may be printed in the *Tip of the Sword*.

Incirlik's Eyes and Ears

By Staff Sgt. Oshawn Jefferson
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The red light comes on, they might receive an incoming call about inclement weather, they could be calling a first sergeant about a Red Cross notification, or they could get messages about force protection changes, deployment actions — or even direct messages that affect the surety mission.

Whatever the message, the command post controllers of the 39th Air Base Wing are here to pass information to the wing commander with around-the-clock operations that keep Incirlik ready for anything.

"We are the nerve center for the base and its mission," said Tech. Sgt. Michelle Appline, 39th ABW command post noncommissioned officer in charge of training. "And we all understand our work can have a big effect on the mission here."

With two controllers on duty at all times, working 12-hour shifts, the command post team of 13 Airmen is responsible for reporting time-critical information to the base leadership, transmitting vital situation reports to higher headquarters and coordinating with key base agencies during all emergencies.

"Being a command post controller, you never know what's going to happen," said Senior Airman Terrance Turner, 39th ABW command post senior emergency actions controller. "There are aspects of our job that are routine, but for the most part, when the phone rings, you never know what you are going to get."

The command post receives anywhere



Photo by Staff Sgt. Oshawn Jefferson
Senior Airman Terrance Turner, 39th Air Base Wing command post deciphers an encrypted message from headquarters.

from five to 10 official messages per shift from U.S. Air Forces in Europe, European Command or NATO. If one of these messages directs actions at Incirlik or its GSUs then it is passed on to wing leadership. If the commander thinks the message warrants it he activates the battle staff.

One of the toughest tasks for the controllers is being the main link to decipher information for leaders to run the base, Sergeant Appline said.

"We have young Airmen and junior NCOs that have to get timely, accurate, detailed, information directly to the wing commander," Sergeant Appline said. "So we rely on all the units to pass the information to us so we can have the answers to the questions the leadership will have about any given event."

When the battle staff is formed representatives from all units assemble in the command post to keep Airmen apprised of the emergency and to keep the flow of information coming and going at a fast past.

"We gather information from many different agencies when the battle staff is activated," said Airman Turner. "It can be quiet at times, but when an emergency happens, it happens fast, and 20 different things are going on at once and we still have to handle incoming messages as well as maintain radio contact with different agencies on base."

Although the job can get tough when an emergency occurs, controllers have special checklists that help them navigate through various circumstances and unforeseen problems.

"In any given situation, we have a quick-reaction checklist and it tells us who to call and what information we need for that specific situation," said Sergeant Appline. "We have one for almost every incident you can think of. We even have a catch-all list."

Checklists would not be helpful without the controllers' keen decision-making abilities. Judgment is something controllers learn with experience on the job. The controllers are expected to use good judgment to disseminate information to the right people.

"The most exciting part about being a controller is knowing that if things go down we are right in the middle of it," said Airman Turner. "We have the capabilities to give the commander the information (he or she) needs to make a good and well-informed decision."

When it comes to keeping the wing leadership and the rest of the base informed on any situation that could occur, it is good to know Incirlik's eyes and ears are on the job.

IN THE NEWS

Volunteer recognition

Incirlik will celebrate its volunteers, May 12 at 3 p.m. at Arkadas Park following Wingman Day events. This is an open community event. Dress is uniform of the day or casual for civilians. For details, call the family support center at 676-6755.

Developmental screenings

The Educational and Developmental Intervention Services and the child development center will be offering free developmental screenings for children ages three months to five years old. The screenings will be performed at the CDC May 17 to 18. If interested, families should sign up at the CDC by May 12 or call EDIS at 676-9649.

Medical procedures

Effective immediately, all military personnel are temporarily prohibited from receiving elective medical testing or procedure from any medical provider not referred by the 39th Medical Group. This prohibition applies to personnel assigned to the 385th Air Expeditionary Group, 728th Air Mobility Squadron, and other military personnel present for duty at Incirlik, including TDY personnel by direct order by the wing commander.

Smooth move cancelled

Because of the inspection, Smooth Move - Inprocessing (formerly combat intro), will be cancelled in its entirety Tuesday and Wednesday. Briefers should plan accordingly.

Weekend early breakfast

The Dining Facility offers breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings from 1 – 8 a.m. Pricing is a la cart for cash customers. For details, call the Sultan's Inn at 676-6016.

Absentee voting

The 2006 State Primary Election for the following states will occur in May. Please contact your unit voting officer or the wing voting officer at 676-VOTE to obtain more information on absentee voting procedures.

FORCE on FORCE



Photos by Senior Airman Larry Reid Jr.



(Top) Airman 1st Class Robert Delisi, 39th Security Forces Squadron patrol journeyman fires at his target during the security forces Force-on-Force training exercise April 10. 39th SFS members participate in periodic training exercises to boost readiness in the event of threat contingencies to the installation.

(Above) Senior Airman Adrian Chavez, 39th SFS, grounds in a defensive fighting position during the security forces Force-on-Force training exercise Monday April 10.

(Left) Airman 1st Class James Schafer, 39th SFS, conducts a "secondary sweep" of a building for any explosives during the Security Forces Force-on-Force training exercise April 14.

MXS: Wherever When

By Senior Airman Tim Beckham
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The 39th Maintenance Squadron plays a key support roll with its ability to adapt to a wide variety of missions.

The members of the 39th Maintenance Squadron have two missions, according to Capt. Jordan Murphy, the maintenance operations officer here, one of which is the munitions maintenance while the other is to maintain critical maintenance infrastructure.

Making up more than 50 percent of the maintenance squadron is the munitions flight.

"The munitions flight leads the lions share of our mission," said Senior Master Sgt. Joe Huskey, munitions superintendent. "Our munitions troops always put in a lot of unseen hours to ensure the success of that mission."

Furthermore, Sergeant Huskey said that the overall success of the maintenance mission takes the team work of many agencies on base.

The munitions flight maintains and tracks every bit of ammunition owned by U.S. forces in Turkey whether it's at Incirlik or at any of the multiple geographically separated locations.

With more than 200 facilities, the 152-mem-

ber squadron has no problem staying busy.

"We have the most facilities of any squadron on base," said Captain Murphy.

The 39th MXS has electro-environmental, sheet metal, metals technology, non-destructive inspection, aerospace ground equipment, munitions flight, transient alert and quality assurance shops, which all play a role in Team Incirlik's mission.

"We support the wing with intermediate-level aircraft maintenance, aircraft crash recovery, conventional munitions and war reserve materiel in support of the Global War on Terrorism, present and future contingency operations," said the captain.

Having no aircraft of its own doesn't stop the 39th MXS from contributing to the Air Force mission.

"With Reserve Component tankers rotating in every two weeks we provide back shop support year around for the units coming in," said Senior Master Sgt. Steve Davis, maintenance superintendent.

The maintenance squadron also provides support for all the other units on base.

"Our back shops can support any type of aircraft, and munitions—whether air-to-air or air-to-ground," said Captain Murphy. "We

even are the base's lead on USAFE's Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement, an agreement with the Government of Turkey, that if needed we can support one another's mission."

"We also support the 728th flying mission, all the C-17s in the cargo hub and all the tankers that fly out of here," added Sergeant Davis.

With a squadron motto of 'Whenever Wherever' the 39th MXS is ready for anything at the drop of a hat.

"If we had fighter aircraft suddenly come in we could bed them down in a very short time," said Sergeant Davis.

With that said the maintenance squadron here has 57 protective aircraft shelters to house any fighters that might need to land here on short notice.

The 39th MXS proved its importance when it played a major role in Pakistani Earthquake Relief Operation from mid-October to the end of November.

"The Pakistani relief mission was a major operation for us," said Captain Murphy. "We parked and maintained every aircraft supporting the mission."



Airman 1st Class Robert Heidenreich of the 39th Maintenance Squadron jumps an A-60 with dead batteries.

ever

Tech. Sgt. Christopher Witham, of the 39th MXS aerospace ground equipment, removes a valve cover to adjust a fuel rack.



Photos by Master Sgt. William Gomez

(Above) Master Sgt. Stephen Martin a production superintendent, right, and Staff Sgt. Vicente Suarez an aerospace ground equipment craftsman, both with the 39th MXS, check the output voltage on a generator set.

(Left) Staff Sgt. Gabriel Bessette of the 39th MXS aerospace ground equipment craftsman, rebuilds a diesel engine.

‘Fire!’

‘Fire!’

‘Fire!’

Department gears up for coming inspections

By 1st Lt. S.J. Brown
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

“Fire, fire fire!” Anyone who has gone through basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, should remember this famous phrase when fire drills were conducted in the bays.

The Incirlik Fire Department’s fire drills are a bit different – especially since there won’t be anyone rushing out of the building wrapped in towels or blankets – because these fire drills are self-imposed.

“When I first got here, I performed a self inspection on the department,” said the new Fire Chief, Ron Swartz, who has been here six months. “We knew there was an inspection coming up and we had to be ready.”

After the self-inspection, Mr. Swartz and his team of 131 Turkish nationals and six Americans found several discrepancies and began the long process of fixing the problem areas. Of 32 inspection areas, half were not up to par, said Mr. Swartz, who is a retired Fire Chief, from Arnold Air Force Base, Tenn., and started his career as a Air Force fire fighter in 1967 at Howard AFB Canal Zone.



Photo by Master Sgt. William Gomez

Ali Balaban of the 39th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department performs a boot drill as part of on going training and to test their gear and equipment.

“It wasn’t as easy as it seems to make improvements,” he said. “First, we are working out of a fire station which is 50 years old. Second, our Turkish nationals, according to the base and local union agreement, are allowed to work only eight hours a day while their counterparts in Adana are allowed to work 24-hour shifts. This means we have to change shifts three times a day.”

Regardless of the challenges, all of the inspection areas are ready, said Mr. Swartz. Of those areas, the three he is most proud of and that have undergone the most improvement are the fire losses, training and the host nation/mutual aid agreements.

“Our fire losses have dropped from last year,” he said. “Normally around this time of year we would have had 12 since October, but this year, we have only had three.”

He attributes the fire loss reduction to increased Fire Prevention Training, which is heavily backed by wing leadership. The training has really improved since everyone from military members to nannies are now required to take fire extinguisher training with the Incirlik Fire Inspector, Yasin Borklu, who has been with the base fire department for more than 12 years.

Other improvements, which will support the wing passing its inspection in September, are the improved personal protective equipment, Inspection and Testing of Vehicles and Equipment and the department’s upgrade status.

“We used to be a Category 8 Airport/Vehicle Set 3 facility which could handle aircraft such as C-17 Globemasters IIIs and KC-135 Stratotankers’s distribute only about 9,300 gallons of water,” said Mr. Swartz. “But as of May 1, since we have newer equipment and have made vast improvements, we will be considered a Category 10 Airport/Vehicle Set 5 facility and will be capable of supporting C-5/B Galaxy, KC-10 Extender and 747’s aircraft with more than 11,000 gallons of water.”

The improvements were necessary, said Mr. Swartz, but it was the attitude of the entire department that made the changes possible. Turkish and American firefighters alike are truly devoted to the mission, he said.

“The Fire Department has a great importance on the base,” said Mr. Borklu. “We all know this inspection is very important to the base but what is more important is the safety of the people. It’s our job to ensure that fire/safety.”



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edward

39th Operations Squadron radar approach control center and tower members play an important role during inspections.

Tower, RAPCONs inspection role is vital

By Senior Airman Patrice Clarke
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

As the base gears up for all the upcoming inspections members of the 39th Operations Squadron air traffic control tower and radar approach control center also get ready.

"The most visual of the two entities is the tower," said Senior Airman Zachary McFall, an air traffic controller working in the RAPCON. "When most people think of air traffic controllers, they immediately think of the tower, but the RAPCON is also essential."

As the highest point on the base the tower looks out over the flightline. It is more than seven stories in the sky and controls the runway, taxiways and parking spaces on the flightline. They also control five miles from the center of the runway and from the ground up to 3,000 feet.

"During an inspection we restrict flying over the base," said Master Sgt. Stuart William, 39th Operations Squadron watch supervisor. "We do this for safety reasons."

Restrict flying isn't the only thing the tower does.

"The tower is the tallest point on base," said Sergeant Williams. "We are able to see a large portion of the base in every direction. "

With this added sight, during the inspections controllers usually take a lookout role besides their primary mission.

"From up here we are able to see, for instance, if something is smoking in the distance and call that in to the command post or to security forces," said Sergeant Williams.

During a regular day at the tower and the radar approach control center the scenario would start with a pilot about to take off talking to the tower.

Once the jet has left the ground the RAPCON takes over from there. When the jet is coming back to land they speak to RAPCON who hands it back to the tower.

During an exercise the RAPCON would also restrict the traffic in their area of coverage. But that's not the only role they have. The RAPCON also has the technology to be a second look out like the tower.

"The RAPCON has radars that could see far out and detect an attack coming," said Sergeant Williams.

Tower and RAPCON both play an important role in the inspection process.

"We are up there, restricting the airways and looking out for the base," said Sergeant Williams.

Incirlik Heroes

“You made my day!” Have you said this recently to someone at Incirlik? We want to know about it!

The *Tip of the Sword* will now feature a weekly spotlight on a person living the Air Force core value of service before self. This person may be someone who provided great customer care, a neighbor who helped out in a tough predicament, or a volunteer who’s making a difference and deserves a pat on the back.

“Chris is a regular volunteer at the deployed spouses dinners and many other events. He’s always energetic, always enthusiastic and always eager and ready to go. It’s a pleasure to have him. While I have been hosting the events he has mainly helped with children. Playing with them and giving many of the deployed spouses a much needed break. He deserves the award.” — Staff Sgt. Richard Moulton, 39th Mission Support Squadron family readiness coordinator

To see a valuable Incirlik team member — active duty, civilian, or family member — in the spotlight, contact Julie Halstead at 676-6755 or e-mail Julie.halstead@incirlik.af.mil.



Photo by Senior Airman Patrice Clarke

Staff Sgt. Chris Evans, 39th Logistic Readiness Squadron noncommissioned officer in charge of preventative maintenance, plays with Res’shaun Spires at the deployed spouses dinner Monday. Sergeant Evans frequently volunteers his time at the dinners.



Photos by Master Sgt. William Gomez

Strike a pose

Base members strutted their stuff at the Airmen Committed to Excellence Fashion Show Expo April 20 at the consolidated club.

(Left) Tayona Thomas, left, and Senior Airman Lashondra Gladney, 39th Communications Squadron, pose in swimwear during the fashion show.

(Above) Master Sgt. James Leonard, 39th Medical Group shows his outfit’s total effect during the casual wear portion of the fashion show.

Spiking, striking, catching balls



Photo by Airman Kelly Flynn

Rich Shipman, a member of the Incirlik Men's Varsity volleyball team, spikes a shot back to members of the Turkish Air Force volleyball team during their game Tuesday. The team scrimmaged at the base fitness center for good measure.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Tiffany Colburn

Angel Bright, a sophomore at Incirlik High School, catches the ball during softball practice Tuesday. The girls softball team will play the Incirlik's Women's softball team Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at Arkadas Park Field 1.



Photo by Senior Airman Patrice Clarke

Derek Rodrigues, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron, bowls a warm-up game before the Intra-mural Bowling Championships Tuesday night. The 39th CES beat 39th Operations Squadron 2 to 1 for the championship.



Ask MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, *Host Nation Adviser*

Question: Mehmet, we are new here and we received our car two weeks ago. I want to take my family on daily trips in our car. Where do you recommend we go in this region?

Response: I wish you a nice stay, a nice tour here and I should remind you that driving in Turkey is not dangerous but adventurous.

There are several places you can drive for a one-day trip in the region. As a start you can go to Antakya (old Antioch). Antakya is the major city of Hatay province.

Antakya is a medium sized city east of Adana. It lays on both banks of the Asi River which was known as the *Orontes* in history. Antakya was founded in the fourth century B.C. by a general under Alexander the Great, Seleucus I Nicator, founder of the Macedonian empire in Syria. The city once had a population of a half million and was second in size only to Rome. The city was destroyed by a serious earthquake in 625 A.D. and was rebuilt under Justinian. It became an independent principality at the time of the Crusaders. Then it changed hands to Mameluks, Ottomans, and in 1939 to Modern Republic of Turkey.

As a reflection of its rich history Antakya has many things to offer to her visitors.

The first place you should visit in Antakya is St. Peter's Grotto. The city has been a center of Christian history. St. Peter, a major figure in the Christian religion and one of the twelve disciples Jesus, created what is thought to be the first Christian church here. St Peter's Grotto is a rock-cut cave overlooking the city. It was quite away from the city up until three decades ago. But now it is within the limits of the city. The Christians in Antakya still hold services there. At the head of the room up on the wall, there is a small statue of St. Peter looking down. The altar is a large square stone with a Byzantine cross carved on the front. If you look carefully, you will see a tunnel behind the altar that leads up and into darkness. According to the signs on the wall, it was thought to have been an escape route for worshippers during attacks from non-believers in ancient days.



Courtesy photo

This mosaic is featured at the Antakya Mosaic Museum in Antakya. Other places to visit while there include St. Peter's Grotto and the Grove of Daphne. These close attractions are located only an hour or two away.

After visiting St. Peter's Grotto your second stop should be Mosaics Museum located in the center of the city. Magnificent mosaics are exhibited in the specially designed and built museum building. In fact, Antakya Mosaics Museum is the second best mosaics museum in the world.

Do you feel tired and hungry after visiting the museum? It is time to go to Harbiye and have a good lunch at the Grove of Daphne. Tiny, crystal white waterfalls pour through lush, green trees and several restaurants are hidden on the side of the hill. In some parts, tables and chairs sat in the middle of the streams giving the patrons the opportunity to freeze their feet in the chilly water while eating. Those restaurants are famous with their chicken, humus and kunefe.

Humus is a hors d'oeuvre type side dish made of boiled and smashed chickpea with addition of sesame seed oil, olive oil and some other spices. Kunefe is shredded wheat sweet dessert with cheese.

Directions:

At the end of the alley turn left onto D 400 (E-5) highway and follow the signs saying **Iskenderun** and **Antakya**. You will reach

Iskenderun first. Stay on the same road, pass through Iskenderun and continue to drive to Antakya. On your way to Antakya, you will see the Snake Castle on your right and the Black castle on your left hand side.

After entering Antakya, look for a yellow sign saying "**St. Pierre Grotto/Kilisesi**" on your left. Turn left from that sign and drive about half-a-mile. Another sign will show you where to turn right to the Grotto. The mosaics museum is in the center of the town by the bridge. You will see the sign of "**Muze**" from distance. It is an old stone building. In order to go to Daphne/Harbiye, drive along the eastern side of the river running by the museum building to the south. Harbiye is about 6 miles south of city center. Look for the "**HARBIYE**" sign. In case you feel that you are lost ask any local individual and they would help you and give you the right directions with hand gestures despite the language barrier.

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 676-6060 or e-mail mehmet.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil.

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

WICO closure

The Women, Infants, and Children Overseas office located in the family support building will be closed Saturday through May 20.

If you have any questions, call Elizabeth Beverly at 676-1237. If immediate assistance is needed during closure period, please contact Staci Crawford at DSN 226-1728 or 01638-521728.

Reading program

The library is sponsoring a new "We the People" reading program entitled "Becoming American," open to grades K through 12.

Certificates and prizes will be awarded. Also, there will be a drawing for gift certificates from the base exchange in June. For details, call Yvonne Byars at 676-6759.

Common access card

Mandatory usage for all E1-E4s and O1s starting today. Members will be unable to use Outlook web access at that time. Exception to Policy letters must be submitted to the base NCC for review.

Contact your Client Support Administrators for more information

Commanders radio show

The Commander's Corner call-in radio show, is aired live on AFN 1590 every Thursday at noon.

Call Col. "Tip" Stinnette at 676-8390 with your questions, concerns or comments.

Dental survey

Headquarters U.S. European Command is sending out an e-mail survey designed to gauge family member dental care in Europe. The EUCOM Quality of Life office is encouraging everyone who receives the e-mail survey to take a few moments to provide feedback.

The survey runs until May 18 and is quick, easy and entirely online.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK

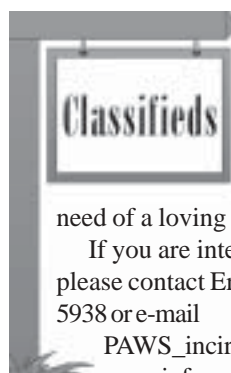


Staff Sgt. Russell Stender
728th Air Mobility Squadron
crew chief

Time in service: Five years, 11 months

Hometown: Sheridan, Mont.

Time on station: 14 and a half months



Good home needed:

Lucky is a medium sized black and tan hound that has been spayed and is current on all shots. She is in need of a loving home.

If you are interested in this great girl please contact Erica Franchino at 676-5938 or e-mail

PAWS_incirlik@yahoo.com for more information.

For sale: 2004 Mustang GT 5,900 original miles, V8, automatic, traction control, 17" polished aluminum wheels, Leather package, Viper Alarm system, Mach 500 stereo system w/in-dash six-disc CD changer, tinted windows. Garage Kept till August. Clean, like new condition. NADA & Kelly Blue Book current retail Value \$21,600 Asking \$19,500 serious inquiries only 676-5332.

Yard sale: Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at 2811C Balikesir (Phantom) PCS sale with clothing, shoes, books, household items.

For sale: Maternity Summer & Fall clothes for sale: Most are Motherhood & Old Navy, some JC Penney brands. Most are size L a couple size M. 35+ items include tops, shorts, rompers, dresses, pants, sweaters, Pj's, jacket and Tankini swimsuit. A steal at \$150 Call 676-5332.

Hobbies: Sports, hunting and fishing.

Why did you join the Air Force?

See some of the world, fo something different and serve my country.

What do you like the most about Incirlik?

Chicken Tava

How do you contribute to the mission?

I provide maintenance support to transient C-5 Galaxy's, C-17 Globemaster IIIs and commercial aircraft by troubleshooting malfunctions and ensuring the aircraft is safe and prepared for continuing missions of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

What is your favorite motto?

"Git-R-Done." No further explanation needed.

What Air Force core value best describes you and why?

"Excellence in all we do." Taking the extra time to complete the small things rather than cutting corners and taking pride in what I do.

For sale: Limited Edition 2004 Yamaha YZF-R6 for sale, only 2,800 mile. Asking price is \$6,500 and includes add-ons.

For more info and pictures contact David Ascough at 676-3009, 676-5155, or e-mail incirlikr6sale@yahoo.com.

Wanted: Dependable family car. If you are PCSing, or just want to "lighten your load" and sell your present vehicle call.

Please call Nilgun at 676-6755 or 0533-633-7401.

Lost: Lost grey cat in Phantom housing. Has no collar and answers to Rain.

If found, please call 676-2299 or 0-538-399-5397.

Wanted: Central Texas College is seeking applications for Automotive Instructors who have an associates degree or higher and a minimum of five years work experience in the maintenance field or a bachelors degree and a minimum of three years work experience in the maintenance field.

Please contact Silke Gardner at 676-8399 or by e-mail: Incirlik@europe.ctcd.edu.

Wanted: The Incirlik Girl Scout Community is seeking a volunteer to fill the overseas Committee Chair position from June 2006 to June 2007.

For details, call Ms. Greta Dozier at 676-3524.

Have great travel photos?

Send them to the *Tip of the Sword* at tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

Royal view

At the most southern point of Turkey's Mediterranean coast lies Anamur. Anamur town is of virtually no interest for the traveler.

However, from Iskele, the harbour district is the ideal basis to visit the medieval Mamure Castle and explore the Byzantine ghost town of Anamurium sometimes also referred to as Anemurium.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Eric Pinlac

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

Golf tournament

Incirlik's Asian-Pacific Heritage Council is scheduled to have a nine-hole, four-person team scramble golf tournament May 19, with tee times starting at 8 a.m. The tournament cost \$12 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. Lunch is included. For details, call Master Sgt. Stewart Williams at 676-3109.

Book fair

A Scholastic Book Fair is being sponsored by the Incirlik elementary and middle school PTSA. The book fair will offer specially priced books and educational products. The book fair is open to the public today from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Incirlik Elementary School. For details, call Janell Subasi at 676-9123.

Tax center

The tax center hours of operation are Monday to June 14, Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 869. For an appointment, call 676-2040.



AT THE OASIS

Today

7 p.m. – 16 Blocks (PG-13) (1st run) - Starring Bruce Willis and Dante 'Mos Def' Smith. A troubled NYPD officer is forced to take witness 16 blocks. (105 minutes)

9:15 p.m. – Final Destination 3 (R) - Starring Mary Elizabeth Winstead and Ryan Merriman. A high school student fails to stop a roller coaster ride that caused the deaths of several of her friends. (82 minutes)

Saturday

5 p.m. – Something New (PG-13) - Starring Sanaa Lathan, Simon Baker and Mike Epps. Kenya, a professional African-American woman is shocked to discover that she's falling in love with a white landscaper. (99 minutes)

7:30 p.m. – When a Stranger Calls (PG-13) - Starring Camilla Belle, Katie Cassidy. While babysitting, a high school student is terrorized by a stranger who calls her, asking "have you checked the children lately?" (83 minutes)

Sunday

7 p.m. – 16 Blocks (PG-13) (1st run) - Starring Bruce Willis, Dante 'Mos Def' Smith. (105 minutes)

Thursday

7 p.m. – Firewall (PG-13) - Starring Harrison Ford, Paul Bettany. A ruthless criminal mastermind kidnaps Jack's family, Jack is forced to find a flaw in his system and steal \$100 million. (105 minutes)

AT THE M1

Ice Age 2 (PG) - Starring Ray Romano, John Leguizamo at 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 p.m.

Movie listings are subject to changes. On-base listings are courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web site at <http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/incirlik.htm>; M-1 listings are courtesy of Tepe Cinemaxx Tepe Cinemaxx and their Web site at www.mybilet.com/show_place_detail.aspx?place_id=101. For more Oasis information and updates, call the movie recording at 676-6986 or the theater office at 676-9140.